

CITY NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 22, 2005 CONTACT: Janet Johnson

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** Media Advisory **

Officers saturate East Wichita to keep drunk drivers off the road

What: DUI Saturation Patrol

When: Saturday, July 23

Who: Wichita Police Department

Where: East Wichita

As an ongoing part of the Wichita Police Department's Traffic Safety Initiative, Officers will be patrolling east Wichita the night of July 23, in an effort to locate intoxicated drivers. "This program is designed to identify impaired drivers and remove them from our roadways" said Sgt. Jim Krok, Patrol East Bureau.

Officers participating in this enforcement activity will be driving marked police cars with a DUI Task Force sign on the vehicle. Motorists who are suspected of driving under the influence will

be pulled over and given a field sobriety test, which may be followed by a Breath Alcohol Test. Those drivers found to be over the legal limit of .08 will be arrested.

Wichita has recorded 12 traffic fatalities since the first of the year, with four (33 percent) of those being alcohol or drug related. During the same time period in 2004, Wichita had recorded 15 traffic fatalities with six (40 percent) being drug or alcohol related.

This DUI Saturation is just one aspect of the four-prong approach that the Department is using in addressing traffic safety in the city of Wichita. The four aspects of traffic safety include education, enforcement, environment and awareness.

Funding for this enforcement effort was made possible though an Impaired Driver Deterrence Grant through the Kansas Department of Transportation. For more information, please contact Sgt. Jim Krok or Capt. Brent Allred at Patrol East at 688-9331.